

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.  
BY THE DISPATCH COMPANY.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 1885.

## Duty of the Virginia Democrats.

It is already evident that the progress of the campaign in Virginia will be watched outside of the State with unusual interest. The issues involved are being generally discussed, and there is a general recognition that the results of the election, whatever they may be, will be far-reaching. In fact, it may be said that the canvass is looked upon as one of national importance. At the South especially in this view taken, and heartier than ever before is the God-speed the southern Democratic papers give the Virginia Democrats. The Charleston News and Courier pretty well summarizes southern Democratic sentiment in regard to what is involved in the Virginia election when it says:

"The value of a Democratic victory in Virginia this year can scarcely be over-estimated. It will secure the complete and final overthrow of Mahanese and Republicanism, which are now fighting for life unaided by the potent hand of the National Government, and will outstretch to aid them in other campaigns. It will reduce the State from the ills that it has suffered under of late years, and will help the Democratic party to win the control of the United States Senate, which ought to be accomplished by the elections of this year and next. It will also carry enthusiasm into the close northern States in the canvass of next year, and will put a final damper upon the claim of the Republicans that President Cleveland has not the support of the South or of his own party in the great work of reform in which he is engaged."

And the News and Courier is right. Virginia's duty in this crisis cannot be fully measured by what she owes to herself. In addition to all considerations for self, she owes it to the nation; Democratic party, owes it to the country, that the fall elections shall crush out Mahanese within her borders. A complete victory for the Virginia Democrats will not only insure the State against the passage of the numerous obnoxious legislative measures that were attempted to be passed by the last Mahanese Legislature, and which would probably have bound Virginia to the car of Radicalism for years, but the moral effect outside of the State will be almost incalculable. The election of a Democratic Legislature will not only mean the political death of MAHON, but will encourage the Democrats of other States to renewed efforts to make the United States Senate Democratic—a consummation through which alone many important measures the Democrats of several States have declared in favor of can be made accomplished facts.

The Democrats can stand it. The organs are again taking up the "Danville incident" with a view of course, of using it in the North to the prejudice of the Virginia Democrats. What a forlorn hope! It is evident that the memories of the organs are failing. They would better let the "Danville incident" alone. They would better bury it as deep as was buried the Shanghai in the parody on Hohenlinden. They forget that the "Danville incident" did not pass out as the Republican party wanted it to be "a large majority." JOHN SHELMAN, it will be remembered, took it up. He grabbed it with all the vindictiveness his nature was capable of. But it was not long before JOHN would have given some pretty pretty to any one who would have helped him to let go of it. He proved too much, and, as a political boom for the Republican party, the "Danville incident" exploded with disastrous effect. The evidence before SHELMAN's committee let in a flood of light upon Radical methods, not only at Danville, but at other points in the South. It opened the eyes of the northern people, and placed the responsibility for the affair exactly where the responsibility belonged. The investigation was a Republican boomerang. We reiterate, the organs would better let the "Danville incident" alone; but if the Republicans can stand having the whole truth told, certainly the Democrats can. The Democrats have all to gain and nothing to lose by having the northern mind reflect calmly upon the facts.

## Toombs Rebutted.

Yesterday we published in part an interview with Hon. ROBERT TOOMBS, of Georgia. It now appears that in the full interview Mr. TOOMBS let himself out extensively. He not only hit Mr. DAVIS several very unkind slurs, but undertook to criticize General LEE. His utterances were fine pickings for most of the Republican papers, but in one or two instances the backbiter has been bitten, and bitten badly. The Philadelphia Evening Telegraph (Republican), while it has a decided opinion as to Mr. DAVIS's capacity, has also a decided opinion as to Mr. TOOMBS's motives and ability to

judge of "the matter of patriotism." The Telegraph, with its usual sense of justice, not only declares that Mr. TOOMBS does General LEE gross injustice, but rebukes him (TOOMBS) in the following stinging manner for trying to make a scape-goat of Mr. DAVIS:

"At any rate, he (Davis) was something better than such a mere blathering politician as Toombs, who is a much more respectable person now in his retirement—the leisure of which he expends in endeavoring to account for the fact that the secession movement was only a failure, but that when it was crushed the real exciting cause of it was crushed with it—than he ever was when endeavoring to pose before the public in the character of a statesman. We have always held that the defensive attitude which the southern people assume when Jefferson Davis is attacked is honorable to them. Davis, at his worst, was and is no worse than other men prominently connected with the rebellion; and yet, mainly because he was President of the Confederacy, he has been a particular object of northern animosity. Those who with him participated in the rebellion have for their part contended that his fault, if fault there was, was that fault, and that they would not countenance having him made a scape-goat."

The Telegraph clearly defines the position of every true southern man towards him, Mr. DAVIS. Any other position towards him on the part of southern men should be reprobated by all fair-minded northern men as it is by the Telegraph.

## A Palpable Hit.

The Tribune catches it all around. A veteran of the Tenth Massachusetts regiment having urged the Springfield Republican "to take up the cause of 20,000 ex-rebel cripples and get them put on the pension rolls right away," the Republican makes the following reply, which contains a splendid hit:

"That would never do. We should be charged with raising the rebel yell and leading that 'rebel' army of the 'Tenth' which always does duty so invariably in political campaigns. There is the New York Tribune now; if our generous friend will apply to that paper, he will perhaps find an advocate of his cause, but it would never do for the Republican, a mugwump, to have anything to do with it."

Of course the Republican recognizes that the South will never ask the United States Government to pension ex-Confederate soldiers, that no ex-Confederate soldier expects such a thing, and that the question is one that does not call for discussion. However, it closes its article with a commendation of the action of the southern States that have made some provision for their ex-Confederate veterans which is in striking contrast with the howl raised by the Stalwarts organs when the North Carolina ex-Confederate pension bill was passed by the Legislature of that State. It says that it is "a great hardship that a man should suffer disability for a public cause (the cause of the whole South) following the flag of his State bravely and sincerely," and that "no man of spirit can object to the States which went into the rebellion relieving the needs of men who were disabled in the field." And yet sentiments like these, from an Independent Republican source, fail to convince the northern allies of the Virginia Republicans that it is about time to stop fighting the war over.

## Mr. Kelley, Again.

The Atlanta Constitution commenting on the fact that the organs make the KELLEY affair the occasion for abusing that gentleman and for indulging in declarations about the "snubbing" that has been given the Democratic party, says:

"So far as the Republican organs are concerned, they appear to forget that it is neither Mr. Kelley nor the Democratic party that has been snubbed, but the United States Government. Mr. Kelley is a cultured gentleman, capable of representing his Government at any court, and his rejection by two foreign Governments is calculated to make him a person of some importance. The refusal of Italy to receive him is explainable, but there can be no explanation on the part of Austria. It is not Mr. Kelley who is snubbed, but the Government, and it is a snub that ought to receive the serious attention of those in power."

Correct. Mr. KELLEY has been neither snubbed nor humiliated. Nor has he lost anything in the estimation of any one whose good opinion is worth having. On the contrary, the dignified manner with which he has borne himself during the entire complication has made him many new friends and admirers. But, new friends that it is settled that Austria will not receive Mr. KELLEY, the United States Government has been snubbed, and can, we think, save itself from humiliation in the eyes of the world only by informing the Austrian Minister at Washington that his room is better than his company. The papers that attempt to put Mr. KELLEY in the position of Minister from the Democratic party to Austria would offer that as an excuse for trucking to Austria make a sad spectacle of themselves.

## BRIEF COMMENT.

Hon. TOOMBS started out to kick the dead Confederacy, and is getting a journalistic kicking.

It may be remarked that BENNY BUTLER did not feel that it was safe to unbutton himself until GRANT was in the tomb.

"It is announced that BENNY BUTLER will surely be a delegate to the forthcoming Democratic State Convention in Massachusetts." Massachusetts Democracy must be degenerating into a huge joke.

The New Orleans Picayune says: "When a man thinks he ought to have an office to pay for doing his duty he soon becomes tiresome." And should be told that he has served his country quite enough and is entitled to a rest.

The Tribune says: "New York is a great city, and offers many instructive lessons of progress and prosperity to the student of human enterprise." Yes, New York secured the remains of GRANT and now wants the rest of the country to build a monument over them.

## THE GREAT SOUTHWEST.

## ITS WEALTH AND PROSPECTS.

Wytheville and its Surroundings—The Mineral and Extensive Cattle-Raising—The Cattle Raisers.

Having visited Salem, my correspondent has now reached Wytheville. The scenery along the line of the Norfolk and Western road from that point to this is grand and picturesque; indeed, it is as beautiful as nature could will make it. Wytheville, like all towns in the Southwest, is situated upon a picturesque valley, surrounded upon one side by a country which at this season of the year is truly lovely to look upon. From the commanding hills around the town the eye can take in many miles of beautiful fields and magnificent forests. Dotted here and there are attractive farms, and in the fields grazing can be seen herds of fat cattle. Its people are excitable and kind, and ever willing to lend a helping hand to the stranger. The girls—well, what shall I say of them? These are many beautiful ones, and if some of them I could name did but promenade Franklin street they would likely envy the envy of some of Richmond's fairest belles. At this time there is a number of them here, and the town is as gay as youth and beauty can make it.

## A RICH COUNTRY.

Among the merchants are heard complaints of "times being hard," but to judge from the genial smiles that light their faces and from the heavy stock of goods they carry this must be a prosperous community. Lately speaking, this section (the Southwest) is one of the growing interests of the cultivation of cabbage. I have been told that some farmers have realized as much as \$150 to \$200 per acre.

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## CATTLE.

The great interest of the farmers of this section is that of grazing cattle. The roads are lined with tags in grass for grazing in summer, and to the production of hay, corn, and other forage for feeding in winter. The grazier proper is the owner of large boundaries of fine grass-lands, on which he grazes cattle in selected lots. Among the largest graziers hereabouts is Mr. William A. Stuart, of Russell, who has several stock-farms in Russell county, and grazes each season for market about 2,000 head of fat cattle that weigh on an average about 1,400 pounds. This does not include calves and milch cows. There are other stock-raisers, but the number they graze is small as compared to that of Mr. Stuart. His grazing lands in that county are said to be valued at \$400,000. In Tazewell county, which is one of the wealthiest counties in Southwest Virginia, large numbers of cattle are shipped. The principal people engaged in this business are Mr. Robert Lawson and Mr. William Cooper. They own an extensive tract of land and graze from 200 to 500 head a season. Joseph W. Meeh, who is the owner of a large farm at Beaver Garden, grazes about 200 head. There are several other large stock-raisers. Mr. George Goss, Mr. Ned Piers, Moss Brothers, and others that average from 100 to 150 head of cattle. In the lower end of the county Robert Barnes is a large stock-raiser, and there are besides a number of small ones that graze from 10 to 20.

In Washington county Mr. James M. Myers, near Glade Springs, grazes about 200, and George W. Palmer, Esq., who is one of the principal owners of the salt-works, several hundred head, but he gives most of his attention to blooded stock. Upon his stock-farm are to be seen large herds of short-horns, Jerseys, and Holsteins. At Seven-Mile Forge Messrs. John and Charles Preston, and a number of others in other sections of the county, average from twenty to forty head in Wythe county, which is one of the richest in the Southwest, there are a number of large cattle-raisers and some of the largest and finest stock-farms in this section. One of the largest stock-raisers is Mr. James H. McGovich, who is the owner of that valuable known as Fort Chiswell, which contains about 4,000 acres of land. It is divided into convenient fields and nearly its entire acreage is in grass. The number of cattle grazed by him for market are several hundred. At

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Max Meadows there are also several large stock-farms, and each of them graze a large number of cattle. The owners of these farms are Messrs. James Crockett, Thomas Crockett, McManis Brothers, Crockett, McManis, Joseph Kent, and M. P. Ogleby. At Graham Forge are the stock-farms of Messrs. John W. Robertson and James P. Graham; at Jackson ferry, in the same county, Messrs. William Raper and H. S. Mathews; near Max Meadows, Messrs. Wythe Graham and D. D. Hall; at Wytheville, Robert C. Kent. In this county, also, there are a number of smaller graziers.

In Blue county, which is one of the smallest in the Southwest, Mr. Harman Newberry is the largest grazer, and is the owner of a large tract of land, covering many acres, and Colonel John R. Crampton next. In Smyth county there are no very large stock-raisers, but there are many excellent farms, and a number of farmers who graze annually from ten to twenty-five head of three-year-olds. The counties of Wise, Scott, Lee, Dickenson, and Buchanan are principally grain-growing counties, and until recent years raised large quantities of hogs; but in the last few years the farmers have been giving much attention to grain, and are busily engaged in getting their lands in condition to produce corn, wheat, and other grain. Throughout the Southwest are to be seen numerous flocks of sheep, but the largest number are raised in the counties of Tazewell, Wythe, Washington, and Smyth. Much attention is given to tending of poultry, and during the fall and winter months heavy shipments are made of dressed fowl, principally turkeys.

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